IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

bolicant:

DOMINIK J. SCHMIDT

Group Art Unit:

2831

Serial No.:

09/973,621

Examiner:

Anthony Dinkins

Filed:

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For:

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Atty. Dkt. No.:

IVT.0023US

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED MAY 12, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 12, 2005, please amend the abovereferenced patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

An Appendix including amended drawing figures is attached following page 9 of this paper.

Date of Deposit: August 5, 2005

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Jennifer Juarez